



Research Note

Constraints faced by banana growers in production of banana in Wardha district of Maharashtra

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Paper History :

Received : 30.12.2015;

Accepted : 30.08.2016

ABSTRACT : The study aimed at understanding the constraints of banana growers regarding production. The study was conducted in Wardha district in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state being more concentration of banana cultivation in this district (230 ha). From this district, two tahasil, were purposively selected on the basis of large area under banana production. From these tahasil six villages of banana growers and from each village 15 banana growers were selected for this study. The frequency and percentage of each constraint were worked out to measure the constraint encountered by the respondents. Constraints faced by majority of the respondents were non-availability of electricity in time, losses due to high temperature, fertilizer cost, labour efficiency and other constraints faced by banana growers like lacunae in government policies, subsidies for the banana suckers.

KEY WORDS : Banana, Banana production, Constraints

HOW TO CITE THIS PAPER : Anap, V.N., Varpe, S.R., Gholap, S.B. and Gaikar, P.S. (2016). Constraints faced by banana growers in production of banana in Wardha district of Maharashtra. *Internat. Res. J. Agric. Eco. & Stat.*, 7 (2) : 257-259, DOI : 10.15740/HAS/IRJAES/7.2/257-259.

Banana (*Musa paradisiaca* L.) fruits have a prominent place among popular extensively grown tropical and sub-tropical fruits. Banana is second most important fruit crop followed by mango in the world. India can safely refer to as the fruit basket of the world being the second largest producer of fruit next to Brazil. It occupies 20 per cent of the total fruit area of country. The total area under banana in India was 770 thousand ha and the average yield in the country is about 34.4 tonnes per ha. and it was very good by world standard with annual production 26740 thousand tonnes in 2009-10. In Maharashtra area under banana was 82 thousand ha. and production 4303 thousand tonnes with 52.5 tonnes per ha. productivity. It was one of the major crop in Wardha

district. Area under banana in Wardha district was 230 ha. with production of 9000 metric tonnes while productivity 39.13 tonnes per ha during 2010-11. The present investigation was an attempt to study the constraints faced by banana growers in production. To study the constraints encountered by banana growers in production.

This study was conducted in Wardha district in Vidarbha region of Maharashtra state being more concentration of banana cultivation.

The purposive selection of Wardha district was made on the criteria of larger area under banana. Out of eight tahsils, two tahsils were selected on the basis of highest area under cultivation namely Sello and Wardha. From each tahsil three villages were selected purposively,

namely Sello, Vadgaon, Reki, Pawnsar, Barbada, Chitoda. From each village 15 farmers was selected randomly. At overall 90 farmers were selected.

Constraints found during pre-testing structured. Relevant information was collected through a survey method with the help of pre-tested questionnaire. The frequency and percentage of each constraint were worked out to measure the constraints encountered by the respondents.

Based on various types of difficulties faced by the growers, the constraints are presented in Table 1, It is depicted from Table 1 that 93.33 per cent of banana grower was faced with constraint like load shading in electricity. Further considerable number of respondents 76.66 per cent faced constraint like, Losses due to high temperature. It is followed by 71.11 per cent who faced constraint of High fertilizer costs. And also 71.11 per cent of respondents recorded labour wages are high and labour are inefficient in work. And more than 61.11 per cent respondents faced the constraint like Initial charges for drip irrigation is very high and delay in subsidy by government, followed by 52.22 per cent recorded constraint like non-availability of suckers in large quantity and quality. And 45.55 per cent respondents recorded constraint like timely and adequate availability of labour. Also cultivation practices are costly. It is followed by 42.22 per cent respondent recorded constraint like inadequate technical assistance.

Conclusion :

From Wardha district two tahasil selected on the basis of highest area under banana production. Overall 90 banana growers were selected for this study. The frequency and percentage of each constraint were worked out to measure the constraints encountered by the respondents. Constraints faced by majority of respondents were non- availability of electricity in time, losses due to high temperature, fertilizer cost, labour efficiency other constraints faced by banana and lacunae in government policies, subsidies for the banana suckers.

It could be concluded that the analysis of these constraints would call for the attention of the administrator of Government, Department of Horticulture and other concerned departments for planning systematic efforts to encountered these constraints will go long way for the development of Agriculture in general and Horticulture

Table 1 : Distribution of the growers according to constraints encountered in production of banana

Sr. No.	Constraints	Respondents (n= 166)	
		Frequency	Percentage
1.	Non-availability of sufficient water	23	25.55
2.	Labour wages are high and labour are inefficient	64	71.11
3.	Inadequate technical assistance	38	42.22
4.	Load shading in electricity	84	93.33
5.	Erratic onset of Monsoon	26	28.88
6.	Suckers are not available in large quantity and quality	47	52.22
7.	High fertilizer costs	64	71.11
8.	Initial charges for drip irrigation is very high and delay in subsidy by Government	55	61.11
9.	Cultivation practices are costly	41	45.55
10.	Losses due to high temperature	69	76.66
11.	Timely and adequate availability of labour	41	45.55

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